## **EXHIBIT 3**

## RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY LABOR ORGANIZATIONS

District 1 - San Jose
District 11 - Salinas
District 11 - Santa Cruz
District IV - San Luis Obisoo

District V - Paninsula

LOCAL 9423 - AFL-CIO 902 NEWHALL STREET, SAN JOSE, CA 95126 Office (408) 261-4150 FAX (408) 243-3011

## RESOLUTION ON DEMOCRATIC COMMUNICATIONS

WHEREAS, a counterbalance is needed for the current commercial radio system which has entirely abandoned localism and public service and become merely a money-making machine for large and distant corporations; and

WHEREAS, there is no reason why thousands, or even tens of thousands of low-power "microradio" stations could not exist in neighborhoods, apartment houses, communities and small towns throughout the U.S. No reason except the FCC's extremely restrictive policies which favor the large, wealthy corporation and the monopolist; and

WHEREAS, the existence of thousands of unlicensed micro-radio stations around the country has shown that such stations can exist without causing interference to others. The FCC calls these stations "pirates". But the real "pirates" are those who have tightly monopolized the public spectrum for their own profit making purposes, and who have largely eliminated local programming, especially local civic programming of any kind; and

WHEREAS, 99.99% of the American people are LEGALLY BARRED from using radio and TV, the most effective media in the U.S., to communicate to their fellow citizens. This situation was greatly aggravated by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, which allowed for a massive consolidation of radio and TV into the hands of a few wealthy corporations. Can such a state of affairs be consistent with the First Amendment? Should freedom of press via broadcasting truly belong to those very few who own a press, or in this case a government broadcast license?; and

WHEREAS, today, radio in the United States has moved very far away from the vision of its pioneers of a force for democracy. Owned by a tiny number of huge multinational corporations, the radio outlets in this country seem to have one purpose only, to deliver audience to paying advertisers. Those advertisers want people to buy, yet they show little, if any concern with the life and needs of working people; therefore be it

RESOLVED that we desperately need a system of worker oriented, community based local radio stations, controlled and operated by the people in the communities they serve; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we urge the FCC to craft a plan for allocating spectrum space to communities which is simple, straightforward and easy for workers' groups, unions and others to use; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CWA Local 9423 join the Committee on Democratic Communications and submit this resolution to all our labor council affiliates and the 1999 CWA National Convention for their review and approval.

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PUDIE: [468] 268,2798 FAX: [488] 248,2853 E-Wāli; ele@atmork,arg #Bi: www.atwork,arg



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Jose Smalle, Steam Can Marker Least 200 - President

Marker C. Secondayun, 200 Sami 715 - Int Man Freeldest
John C. Seven, Santing Instan County - 2nd Man Freeldest

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## RESOLUTION ON DEMOCRATIC COMMUNICATIONS

Whereas, a counterbalance is needed for the current commercial radio system which has entirely abandoned localism and public service and become merely a money-making machine for large and distant corporations; and

Whereas, there is no reason why thousands, or even tens of thousands of low-power "micro-radio" stations could not exist in neighborhoods, apartment houses, communities and small towns throughout the U.S. No reason except the FCC's extremely restrictive policies which favor the large, wealthy corporation and the monopolist; and

Whereas, the existence of thousands of unlicensed micro-radio stations around the country has shown that such stations can exist without causing interference to others. The FCC calls these stations "pirates". But the reat "pirates" are those who have tightly monopolized the public spectrum for their own profit making purposes, and who have largely eliminated local programming, especially local civic programming of any kind, and

Whereas, 99.99% of the American people are Legally Barred from using radio and TV, the most effective media in the U.S., to communicate to their fellow citizens. This situation was greatly aggravated by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, which allowed for a massive consolidation of radio and TV into the hands of a few wealthy corporations. Can such a state of affairs be consistent with the First Amendment? Should freedom of press via broadcasting truly belong to those very few who own a press, or in this case a government broadcast ilcense?, and

Whereas, today, radio in the United States has moved very far away from the vision of its pioneers of a force for democracy. Owned by a tiny number of huge multinational corporations, the radio outlets in this country seem to have one purpose only, to deliver audience to paying advertisers. Those advertisers want people to buy, yet they show little, if any concern with the life and needs of working people; therefore be it

Resolved that we desperately need a system of worker oriented, community based local radio stations, controlled and operated by the people in the communities they serve, and

Be it Further Resolved that we urge the FCC to craft a plan for allocating spectrum space to communities which is simple, straightforward and easy for workers' groups, unions and other to use, and

Be it Further Resolved that the South Bay AFL-CIO Labor Council go on record supporting this resolution and to communicate to the FCC.

Adopted by the South Bay ALF-CIO Labor Council at the Executive Board Meeting on April 7, 1999.



# Central Labor Council of Alameda County

# **429** 

7992 CAPWELL DRIVE

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94621

Telephone (510) 632-4242



#### DOROTHY FORTIER

President

JUDITH M. COFF

Executive Secretary-Treasurer

RESOLUTION OF CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL OF ALAMEDA COUNTY, AFL-CIO IN SUPPORT OF THE LEGALIZATION OF MICRO-POWERED RADIO

WHEREAS, since 1978, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has refused to license FM radio stations proposing to broadcast with less than 100 watts of power, and has put other impediments in the way of the establishment of low cost, community based radio stations;

WHEREAS, that policy has offectively limited access to radio broadcasting to large corporations and wealthy individuals;

AND WHEREAS, it is frequently impossible to reach union workers and potential union members through the press or the commercial mass media;

AND WHEREAS, the poor, minorities, workers, community groups and people with alterative viewpoints have been largely denied access to the airwaves because of these FCC regulations;

AND WHEREAS, for organizing drives and for communicating with workers on the job in their cars and in their homes, low power, community based radio operated by union locals, concerned workers, and others provide an ideal means of providing communication and information of interest to workers and their families;

AND WHEREAS, most full power stations fail to adequately report news of interest to workers and members of unions, and an expansion of diversity in radio broadcasting that low power radio would make possible is likely to promote the distribution of information about the labor movement;

AND WHEREAS, the lack of low power stations has robbed local communities of radio programming which addresses local concerns, substituting instead regional radio mega-stations mostly programming from thousands of miles away:

AND WHEREAS, the 1996 Telecommunications Act has further and dramatically concentrated ownership of the broadcast media into a few massive corporations, squeezing out local voices:

AND WHEREAS, new technology in transmitters and radio receivers is such that there is space on the radio spectrum for hundreds of new low power radio stations, each of which could be set up easily and for less than \$2,000;

AND WHEREAS, in response to the foregoing, the FCC has issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) which proposes the legalization of FM stations under 100 watts and which asks the public to comment on how such licensing should take place;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Executive Scoretary-Treasurer of the Central Labor Council of Alameda County, AFL-CIO shall submit the following as comments to the FCC's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (RM 99-25), using the FCC's procedure for submitting Comments electronically at www.fcc.gov:

- The Central Labor Council of Alameda County, AFL-CIO supports licensing as many new, small FM radio stations as possible to secure the benefits of locally oriented radio for our 1. community.
- 2. The new Low Power FM stations should be non-commercial to provide the maximum diversity of voices on these new stations.

on the radio dial allowing the maximum number of new stations.

- No person or group should own more than one new station and station owners should be based in the community the station would serve. 4.
- We also join with and support the more detailed comments to this proceeding which are being submitted by the National Lawyers's Guild's Committee on Democratic Communications. 5.

Signed

OPEN # 29 MICHOPOCH

May 10, 1999

chartered IN 1893

## San Francisco Labor Council, AFL-CIO



1188 FRANKLIN STREET, SUITE 203, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIPORNIA 94109 • 415/440-4809 • FAX 415/440-9997 omail: 71365.3512@CompuScree.com

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KENT MITCHELL
United Education of San Francisco
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Pacific Northwest Day Council, I.L. G.W.U EDUARDO ROSARIO G.C. F.U., 4-N KOSEPH SHARPE

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CLAIRE ZVANSKI
IMBIG DURIN Employees, 780

PAIR, DEMPSTER

## RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, a counterbalance is needed for the current commercial radio system which has entirely abandoned localism and public service and become merely a money-making machine for large and distant corporations; and

WHEREAS, there is no reason why thousands, or even tens of thousands of low-power "micro-radio" stations could not exist in neighborhoods, apartment houses, communities and small towns throughout the U.S. no reason except the FCC's extremely restrictive policies which favor the large, wealthy corporation and the monopolist; and

WHEREAS, the existence of thousands of un-licensed micro-radio stations around the country has shown that such stations can exist without causing interference to others. The FCC calls these stations "pirates," but the real "pirates" are those who have tightly monopolized the public spectrum for their own profit making purposes, and who have largely eliminated local programming, especially local civic programming of any kind; and

WHEREAS, 99.99% of the American people are legally barred from using radio and TV, the most effective media in the United States, to communicate with their fellow citizens, this situation was greatly aggravated by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, which allowed for a massive consolidation of radio and TV into the hands of a few wealthy corporations. Can such a state of affairs be consistent with the First Amendment? Should freedom of press via broadcasting truly belong to those very few who own a press, or in this case a government broadcast license?; and

WHEREAS, today, radio in the United States has moved very far away from the vision of its pioneers of a force for democracy owned by a tiny number of huge multinational corporations, the radio outlets in this country seem to have one purpose only, to deliver audience to paying advertisers. Those advertisers want people to buy, yet they show little, if any, concern with the life and needs of working people;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, we desperately need a system of worker oriented, community based local radio stations, controlled and operated by the people in the communities they serve, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Labor Council urge the FCC to craft a plan for allocating spectrum space to communities which is simple, straightforward and easy for workers' groups, unions and others to use; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Labor Council hereby go on record supporting this Resolution and communicate our position to the FCC.

Adopted by the Executive Committee of the San Francisco Labor Council at their meeting on June 2, 1999.

Walter L. Johnson Secretary-Treasurer

WLJ:mcq/opeiu3aflcio(11)

UNITY IS STRENGTH!

P:01

Page 1 of 2

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FAX : 6508131409 TEL : 6508569706



Michael E. Hardoman Business Managar/Financia' Secretary Leo Michael Pointer Business Representative

Robert L. Owen Installer Representative

To Mr. William Kennard, Chair Federal Communication Commission 445 - 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20554

Resolution of Local 510 Sign Display and Allied Trades of IBPAT in support of the legalization of micro-powered radio

WHEREAS, since 1978, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has refused to license FM radio stations proposing to broadcast with less than 100 watts of power, and has put other impediments in the way of the establishment of low cost, community based radio stations;

WHEREAS, that policy has effectively limited access to radio broadcasting to large corporations and wealthy individuals;

AND WHEREAS, it is frequently impossible to reach union workers and potential union members through the press or the commercial mass media;

AND WHEREAS, the poor, minorities, workers, community groups and people with alternative viewpoints have been largely denied access to the airwaves because of these FCC regulations;

AND WHEREAS, for organizing drives and for communicating with workers on the job, in their cars and in their homes, low power, community based radio operated by union locals, concerned workers, and others provide an ideal means of providing communication and information of interest to workers and their families.

AND WHEREAS most full power stations fail to adequately report news of interest to workers and members of unions, and an expansion of diversity in radio broadcasting that low power radio would make possible is likely to promote the distribution of information about the labor movement;

AND WHEREAS the lack of low power stations has robbed local communities of radio programming which addresses local concerns, substituting instead regional radio mega-stations mostly programming from thousand of miles away;

AND WHEREAS the 1996 Telecommunications Act has further and dramatically concentrated ownership of the broadcast media into a few massive corporations, squeezing out local voices;

AND WHEREAS new technology in transmitters and radio receivers is such that there is space on the radio spectrum for hundreds of new low power radio stations, each of which could be set up casily and for less than \$2,000;

AND WHEREAS in response to the foregoing, the FCC has issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) which proposes the legalization of FM stations under 100 watts and which asks the public to comment on how such licensing take place;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the President of Local 510 Sign Display of IBPAT shall submit the following as comments to the FCC's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (RM 99-25), using the FCC's procedure for submitting comments electronically at <a href="https://www.fcc.gov">www.fcc.gov</a>:

- The Union Local 510 Sign Display supports licensing as many new, small FM radio stations
  as possible to secure the benefits of locally oriented radio for our community.
- 2. The new Low Power FM stations should be non-commercial to provide the maximum diversity of voices on these new stations.
- 3. Power levels for the new stations should not exceed 100 watts so that there can be more space on the radio dial allowing the maximum number of new stations.
- 5. No person or group should own more than one new station and station owners should be based in community the station would serve.
- We also join with and support the more detailed comments to this proceeding which are being submitted by the National Lawyer's Guild's Committee on Democratic Communications.

Adopted by Local 510 May 12, 1999.

Pat Wright, President

Local 510

Sign, Display and Allied Crafts, IBPAT

2660 Newhall Street, Room 104

San Francisco, Ca 94124-2527

RESOLUTION OF THE MARINE CLERKS ASSOCIATION, LOCAL 63, OF THE INTERNATIONAL LONGSHORE AND WAREHOUSE UNION, IN SUPPORT OF THE LEGALIZATION OF LOW POWER AND MICRO RADIO (LPFM)

WHEREAS:

the stated goals of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to democratize opportunities for LPFM, to promote diversity in radio voices are in keeping with the ILWU's guiding principle to foster control from below through active rank-and-file participation, mutual respect for diverse opinions whether religious or political and of differences of races, color, creed and national origin;

AND WHEREAS:

current FCC policy limits radio station ownership to large corporations and wealthy individuals contrary to the ILWU's guiding principle that the concentration of power amongst the few must be opposed if the welfare of the rank-and-file worker is to be fostered;

AND WHEREAS:

the exponential concentration on radio ownership in the United States--especially after the misconceived 1996 Telecommunications Act--has eliminated what minute access workers and non-profit community organizations, including unions, had to the airwaves;

AND WHEREAS:

since 1978, FCC rules have prevented the participation of the poor, minorities, workers, community groups and others from access through LPFM which access would provide unions together with other non-profit community groups like schools, the opportunity to communicate community-building information to workers at the jobsite or at home;

AND WHEREAS:

there has been a national groundswell of requests to the FCC for access to LPFM and for station licenses; and new technology exists in transmitters and radio receivers to provide the space on the radio spectrum for hundreds of new inexpensive LPFM stations that would permit citizens to set up stations to serve local communities providing a voice to the voiceless;

AND WHEREAS:

a counterbalance is needed to the current corporate commercial radio system, which now has even co-opted "Public Broadcasting", and forsaken programming which addresses local concerns in favor of filler and fluff transmitted from regional mega-stations thousands of miles away;

AND WHEREAS:

in response to the foregoing, the FCC has issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) which proposes the legalization of FM stations under 100 watts and which asks the public to comment on how such licensing should take place;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

that the Secretary of the Marine Clerks Association, Local 63, ILWU, shall submit the following as comment to the FCC's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (RM 99-25), using the FCC's procedure for submitting Comments electronically at www.fcc.gov:

- the Marine Clerks Association, Local 63, ILWU, supports licensing as many new small (100 watt or less) FM radio stations as possible to secure the benefits of community oriented non-profit NON-COMMERCIAL radio in our community.
- such 100-watt or less stations would assure more space on the radio dial for the maximum number of new stations and maximum opportunities for diverse viewpoints.
- 3. the new stations should be protected from being forced off the air by higher-watt stations by being considered a "Primary Service", not as a "Secondary Service", under FCC rules.
- 4. no person or group should own more than one new station, and station owners should be based in the community the station serves.
- 5. people who have struggled to bring low-power radio to their communities since 1978, when none was available, should not be prohibited from participating in this new opening up of the FM channels for they have much knowledge and creativity to contribute.
- 6. we also join with and support the more detailed comments to this proceeding which are being submitted by the Committee on Democratic Communications of the National Lawyers' Guild.

ATTACHMENT TO RESOLUTION filed as public comment by Local 63, Marine Clerks Association, International Longshore & Warehouse Union, 707 West "C" Street, Wilmington, Ca., 90744, on MM Docket No. 99 - 25 regarding FCC proposal to Create Low Power FM Radio Service for Local Communities.

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
Brianhiery	5/60 E. ATHERTON	L/BEACH	CA	90815
Mack R.	407 National St.	Ansheim	Ca	92804
	22508Naptune Ac	Cerson	Ca	90745
My Consul	1388W 15/2 ST	S.P.	CA	90732
1 om Pursul	1763 Apploon	13	A	90802
20 HOUGINS	AR WZWST	HARROX City	CA	9070
	2512 Robab ALBAUE	SANToleo	CA	90432.
Burg Juesett		11 12	در	ι,
JOHN COUNTS	4979 SILVEN ANNOW	RPV	CA	90275
Seat JABARA	72 BUCKSKIN LN	RHE	CA	90274
JULIE BROWN	2119 So. GRAND	SANFEDRO	CA	90131
Marto W. Math	1379 bikliester Dr.	SANPEGIO	Caif.	90732
Richard Martinkus	3615 Loomis Street	Lakewood	CA	90712
Tom HARRISON	22 882 CAMINITO ORO	LAGUNA HILLS	CA	92653.
PATSCOGNAMIL	6 1800 BARDALG	SAN PEDRO	CA	90731
MARK MAKI	27648 ELDENA DR	R.P.Y.	CA	90275
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ATTACHMENT TO RESOLUTION filed as public comment by Local 63, Marine Clerks Association, International Longshore & Warehouse Union, 707 West "C" Street, Wilmington, Ca., 90744, on MM Docket No. 99 - 25 regarding FCC proposal to Create Low Power FM Radio Service for Local Communities.

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
SAM LONGIN Jr.	1184W.195T.	SoutEDro	CA	90731-3814
MIKE PODUE	16460 VENUS DR	WEST MINSTER	CA	92683
LOUISE MCDUFFICE	2235 25 04 5+	San Pedro	CA	90732
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Tom	715 W.14thst	SonPedro	CA	9673 1
Fred Moras	Surpodo.			•
DAVIEL WEBSTER	1217 LOMA AUE#4	LONG BEACH	CA	90804
James Mun	37525 SAUTBLOSSUM	TEMETULA	CA	92592
	1589 Stonewood Ct	Sanfedro	Ca	90732
MARIANNE XEUSTROM	1	GARTEN GROVE,	CA	92845
Jeborah Gews	i i	long Buch	Ca:	90815
MICHAEL G. LARKIN		HERHOUA BEACH	CA	90254-4303
MIKE ZAMPERIM	819 STATION	SAN PEDRO	CA	90731
	1978 GALGRAGA OR.	RPV	CA	90275
	523 E. LONITA BLUD#2	CARSON	CA	90745
	42-EDMONTON	ALISO VIETO	COL.	92686
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	P.O. Box 764	wilm	Cn	90 748
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ATTACHMENT TO RESOLUTION filed as public comment by Local 63, Marine Clerks Association, International Longshore & Warehouse Union, 707 West "C" Street, Wilmington, Ca., 90744, on MM Docket No. 99 - 25 regarding FCC proposal to Create Low Power FM Radio Service for Local Communities.

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~				
CARIOS C. DUENAS	811 CENTRE St,	SANPEDRO	CA-	90731
LARAINE ARIAN	57/W, 17 ST.	SAN PEDED	CA	90731
THEA ZULIANI	ZZ14 W. 34th ST.	SAN PEDRO	CA	90732:
Λ . /	25212 Cypress St	i .	CA.	90717
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	1936 W. 15t St.	San Pedro	Ca	90732
PETEM, NAWA	<b>1</b>	CARRON	CALIF	90745
PATRICK MALLOR	5361 DUKEDR.	LA PALMA	CA.	90623
	3580 Sunflower		CA.	90740
JAMES ADAMS	977CAFSW60D	SAN PEDRO	CA	90731
Emie Chave		SAN PEDRO	CA	90731
TOM PANCY	1114 EAST OCEN	LONG BEACH	CA	90802.
CYNTHIAA-SUTTON	484 NURTH	SAN PEDRO	CA	98731
Carmen Velazguez	6734 Govieta Lie	Long Beach	CA	90805
•	2648 = Douingare 291	Long BEXCH	CA	90818
Therese Chaucz		R.P.U.	Ca.	90275
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#### Resolution 61A-99-9

## **Democratic Communications**

A counterbalance is needed for the current commercial radio system which has entirely abandoned localism and public service and become merely a money-making machine for large and distant corporations. There is no reason why thousands, or even tens of thousands of low-power "micro-radio" stations could not exist in neighborhoods, apartment houses, communities and small towns throughout the U.S. No reason except the FCC's extremely restrictive policies which favor the large, wealthy corporation.

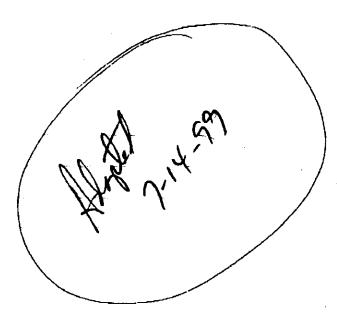
The existence of thousands of unlicensed micro-radio stations around the country has shown that such stations can exist without causing interference to others. The FCC calls these stations "pirates". But the real "pirates" are those who have tightly monopolized the public spectrum for their own profit making purposes, and who have largely eliminated local programming, especially local civic programming of any kind.

99.99% of the American people are legally barred from using radio and TV to communicate to their fellow citizens. This situation was greatly aggravated by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, which allowed for a massive consolidation of radio and TV into the hands of a few wealthy corporations. Can such a state of affairs be consistent with the First Amendment? Should freedom of press via broadcasting truly belong to those very few who own a press, or in this case, a government broadcast license?

Today, radio in the United States has moved away from the vision of its pioneers as a force for democracy. Owned by a tiny number of huge multinational corporations, the radio outlets in this country seem to have one purpose only, to deliver audience to paying advertisers. Those advertisers want people to buy, yet they show little, if any, concern with the life and needs of working people.

RESOLVED: That we desperately need a system of worker-oriented, community-based local radio stations, controlled and operated by the people in the communities they serve.

**RESOLVED:** That CWA urge the FCC to craft a plan for allocating spectrum space to communities which is simple, straightforward and easy to use.



## **EXHIBIT 4**

## OTHER RESOLUTIONS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS



Statement of the Rev. Dr. Joan Campbell, General Secretary, the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA to William E. Kennard, Chairman, Federal Communications Commission Regarding Low Powered Radio.

Mr. Chairman, we are delighted and grateful that you have responded favorably to the invitation of the National Council of Churches and the other Catholic and Protestant bodies gathered here to discuss low powered radio with us. Rev. Randy Naylor will introduce my colleagues shortly. I think it is fair to say that our membership loosely encompasses the vast majority of America's practicing Christians.

Of course, we did not invite you to meet with us to try to persuade you to support low powered radio. That would be preaching to the converted. We asked for a face-to-face meeting, so we could assure you that the religious community-which is not without influence-wants to see the FCC authorize low powered radio stations and license them as widely as possible in communities throughout the United States. We have come to offer our support to you and the other FCC Commissioners to bring that about.

We hope and we urge that the new low powered stations will be licensed to non-commercial broadcasters who will both represent and cater to local community needs and interests. Schools and community colleges; libraries; medical and other agencies that serve homebound people; child care and senior citizen centers; civic and civil rights groups; churches come to mind. Our citizens have the right to exchange ideas and wrestle with local problems through the media. There is a crying need for people to be able to get accurate, unbiased news and information about their localities, down to the smallest neighborhood units. We know that our churches have this need, especially those with minority membership. Indeed, we believe there should be priority treatment of minorities. In many communities minorities will be found to have no voice at all on the commercial radio stations, and certainly no ownership of radio facilities.

Mr. Chairman, in justification of the policies we advocate for low power radio, I cannot help but remind you that Congress and predecessor Commission majorities have virtually abandoned radio ownership restrictions and consequent attention to public interests, needs and necessities. In our view, the present concentration of control of radio stations in a handful of powerful corporations is a threat to our democratic institutions. For commercial purposes, audiences are deliberately segmented by age, sex, race, and ethnic origin--even by political bias.

Scores, or even hundreds, of stations owned by a single corporation are managed from a distant city, with satellite delivered programming and national advertising. Many such stations ignore information and news stories that are important to our members and the people we serve. Many churches have programming material that they cannot place on currently available radio outlets, and I am sure other local public groups suffer from the same neglect.

One piece of evidence, already in the Commission's hands, underscores my argument. In a filing in your current rulemaking inquiry on Equal Employment Opportunity, a group of commercial radio station managers made individual statements opposing the proposed rule. They argue that diversity in the work force is undesirable, since it cannot bring about diversity in programming, because so few of their programs originate locally. They report that local origination of programs ranges from a low of one percent to six percent, nine percent, ten percent, and for one station, 15% - 20%.

This neglect of their communities of license is not just a matter of economic justice. It is a lesson we need to learn about democratic self-governance. As you may have heard, I was a member of the delegation that traveled to Yugoslavia and succeeded in freeing our soldier prisoners. There, I was reminded of the heroic men and women who operated small scale broadcasting stations in Eastern Europe against first the Nazi, then the Communist dictators, keeping democracy alive in the minds of the people. Democracy depends on any informed citizens. We have groups among us who have been disenfranchised, or never were "enfranchised" by the electronic media. By creating a community-based microradio service, we can-and we should--set an example for the rest of the world.

#### TOM BLILEY, VIRGINIA, CHAIRMAN

W.J. "BILLY" TAUZIN, LOUISIANA MICHAEL G. OXLEY, OHIO MICHAEL BILIRAKIS, FLORIDA JOE BARTON, TEXAS FRED UPTON, MICHIGAN CLIFF STEARNS, FLORIDA
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HEATHER WILSON, NEW MEXICO
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CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING, MISSISSIPPI
VITO FOSSELIA, NEW YORK
ROY BLUNT, MISSOURI
ED BRYANT, TENNESSEE
RORERE I. HERD ICK! EN MARWI AND

ROBERT L. FHRLICH, JR., MARYLAND

JOHN D. DINGELL MICHIGAN HENRY A. WAXMAN, CALIFORNIA EDWARD J. MARKEY, MASSACHUSETTS RALPH M. HALL, TEXAS BICK BOLICHER VIRGINIA FICH BODGHER, WAS NEW YORK FRANK PALLONE, JR., NEW JERSEY SHERROD BROWN, OHIO BART GORDON, TENNESSEE PETER DEUTSCH, FLORIDA BOBBY L. RUSH, ILLINOIS ANNA G. ESHOO, CALIFORNIA ANNA G. ESHOU, CALIFOHNIA RON KLINK, PENNSYLYANIA BART STUPAK, MICHIGAN ELIOT L ENGEL, NEW YORK THOMAS C. SAWYER, OHIO ALBERT R. WYNN, MARYLAND GENE GREEN, TEXAS KAREN MCCARTHY, MISSOURI TED STRICKLAND, OHIO DIANA DEGETTE, COLORADO THOMAS M. BARRETT, WISCO BILL LUTHER, MINNESOTA LOIS CAPPS, CALIFORNIA

U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Commerce

Room 2125, Rayburn Bouse Office Building Washington, DC 20515-6115

May 18, 1999

JAMES E. DERDERIAN, CHIEF OF STAFF

Mr. Tom Ness Jam Rag Press Box 20076 Ferndale, Michigan 48220

Dear Mr. Ness:

Thank you for your letter regarding low-power radio broadcasting. I appreciated hearing from you.

I commend your efforts in Michigan, and I am pleased to note that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) launched a rulemaking on January 28, 1999, that is intended to provide greater opportunities for community-oriented broadcasters. I support the FCC's efforts, provided that existing licensees are protected from interference. The rules are expected to lead to the creation of several hundred medium- and low-power FM broadcast stations.

I, too, support a robust local market for radio and television broadcasting. During the debates surrounding passage of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, I argued strenuously against further concentration of radio broadcast ownership at the local level. Unfortunately, the Congress succeeded in completely removing the national ownership caps and significantly expanding the local station limits for individual radio broadcasters.

As a result, the country has experienced an unprecedented degree of ownership concentration of radio stations. This concentration is leading both to higher advertising rates and an increasing bias toward national programming. I continue to believe that neither result is in the public interest.

I agree with the concerns you have raised and will continue to support the protection of programming diversity at the local level. If I can be of further assistance, please let me know.

With every good wish.

JOHN D. DINGELL RANKING MEMBER



130 West 25th Street . New York, New York 10001

To whom it may concern:

This letter is submitted as a show of support for Free Radio Santa Cruz, a micro-radio station operating in your area. Like other micro stations, Free Radio SC has taken a daring—and illegal—stand, provoking the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to re-evaluate their own licensing guidelines. It is in that spirit that FAIR supports their actions, especially as they relate to a national (and international) movement to educate and inform the public on the issues of radio ownership, freedom of speech, and the rights of citizens to communicate with one another.

Other micro-powered stations have faced harassment and even arrest for continuing to broadcast without a license. The FCC, after spending years chasing down unlicensed broadcasters, now appears ready to make some compromise to allow low-watt stations to broadcast free of harassment.

I am including an article from the latest issue of Extra!, FAIR's magazine. It addresses one of the FCC's chief complaints about micro-radio: the claim that such broadcasting creates "interference" problems with licensed stations, as well as aviation equipment. As the article points out, this argument is not supported by the evidence.

I encourage the City Council in Santa Cruz to express their support for the station, especially as this issue attracts more attention throughout the country. This dedication to providing community-oriented broadcasting in the face of such adversity should not go unrecognized.

Sincerely,

Peter Hart

FAIR



## MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

P.O. Box 30014 Lansing, Michigan 48909-7514

April 13, 1999

The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman, Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street NW Washington, D.C. 20554

In re: RM9242

Dear Chairman Kennard:

We are writing in support of the Commission's proposed rules to license new low power FM radio stations, which would improve airwave access in local communities.

As the rate of consolidation of radio broadcast markets has increased, fewer and fewer local stations exist with close connections to communities and neighborhoods. This has resulted in a less diverse media market. Licenses for low power FM radio stations would allow more local groups -- minorities, the religious and educational communities, and non-"mainstream" voices -- to be heard in urban as well as rural markets.

The public airwaves could better serve the public by having a wider assortment of local forums for both listeners and market owners. Allowing LPFM stations could increase local presence and provide more choices to the public, better reflecting the character of the communities they serve.

We urge you to restore approval for low power FM radio broadcasting as a relatively affordable, more community-based service to include regional issues and local music more effectively in the radio markets.

Sincerely,

Paul Gieleghem

State Representative

31st District

Patricia Godchaux

State Representative

40th District

State Representative

You Dogardus

53rd District

Rose Bogardus
State Representative

47th District

April 13, 1999 page 2 Tranci H. Thomas H. Kelly Michael Switalski State Representative 27th District Lune Dennis State Representative 92nd District Gilda Z. Jacobs State Representative 35th District



March 8, 1999

Mr. William Kennard, Chairman Federal Communication Commission 1919 M Street NW Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of:

Proposal for Creation of Low Power FM (LPFM) Broadcast Service FCC RM-9242, the "Skinner" petition

Dear Mr. Kennard:

We, members of the Michigan State Senate, would like to take this opportunity to express our support for RM-9242 which would help to create a new service of small, locally owned FM stations.

As you know, twenty years ago, the Federal Communications Commission (F.C.C.) stopped issuing new "Class D" broadcasting licenses (stations of less than 100 watts). Today to launch a station the F.C.C. will consider licensing a minimum investment of \$80-100 thousand, making it too difficult for the general public to launch a radio statio. A national grassroots movement has emerged to re-legalize community radio.

We believe allowing low power FM Radio will achieve several worthwhile goals; providing more choice to the public, diversity of ownership, increased local presence in the media and a better reflection of the character and needs of the community.

Therefore, we support RM-9242 and hope that you will consider adopting this rule on behalf of local musicians, community groups and individual citizens throughout the State of Michigan and the country.

Respectfully,

Alma St heeler Son

## Members of the Michigan State Senate who signed this letter are:

- Ken DeBeaussaert
- Walter H. North
- Joe Young, Jr.

-

- John D. Cherry, Jr.
- Burton Leland
- \_ Gary C. Peters
- Raymond Murphy
- ~ Alma Wheeler Smith
- Mat Dunaskiss
- Phil Hoffman
- Christopher D. Dingell
   John J. H. Schwarz

All can be contacted at P.O. Box 30036 Lansing, MI 48909-7536

> Makyov Carss

## Congress of the United States House of Representatives Mashington, DC 20515

March 16, 1999

The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman, Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Kennard:

We are writing to commend the Commission for taking action on an issue of great importance to us — improving access to our airwaves for our local communities. We have become increasingly concerned about the growing concentration of the media in our country and are pleased that the Commission is taking action to increase opportunities for local communities to use our radio airwaves.

One of the fundamental tenets of our democracy is to ensure that diverse interests have opportunities to express themselves at different levels, and that they are not locked out in a monopolistic, globalized fashion. It is as fundamental as free speech. Radio is perhaps the most qualified of any media outlet to provide community access. It is a relatively inexpensive medium to produce and is well suited to cover community issues and local music. Unfortunately, today's radio is the most concentrated and formulaic medium in the country. Providing licenses to low power FM radio stations would create new opportunities for local voices to be heard in their communities.

Allowing low power FM radio stations on the air would empower local broadcasters to serve their communities with a variety of new voices and services. Low power radio stations would be able to address specific groups — including minority groups, the religious community, and linguistic minorities — and provide a forum for debate about important local issues. These kinds of stations would strengthen community identity in urban neighborhoods, rural towns and other communities which are currently too small to win much attention from "mainstream," ratings-driven media.

The Honorable William E. Kennard March 16, 1999 Page two

Further, they would provide an outlet for the diverse, local voices and musicians that are presently priced out of the market. These stations would also provide advertising options for local businesses and increased employment opportunities in these communities.

The strong interest in independent radio stations shows that the creation of low power radio service would have wide support. The tremendous public demand for microradio is demonstrated by the proliferation of illegal radio stations, whose operators broadcast at the risk of financial losses and, in some cases, imprisonment.

Again, we applaud the Commission's willingness to address this issue. We are hopeful that the creation of a new class of low power FM radio service will soon become a reality. We look forward to working with you on making the airwaves more accessible to our local communities.

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The Honorable William E. Kennard March 16, 1999

Page three

# <u>List of Cosigners</u> <u>on the</u> <u>Bonior Low Power Radio Letter</u> <u>to</u> <u>FCC Chairman Kennard</u>

David E. Bonior (MI) Lincoln Diaz-Balart (FL) Rosa L. DeLauro (CT) Alcee L. Hastings (FL) Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (FL) Lucille Roybal-Allard (CA) — James E. Clyburn (SC) Marcy Kaptur (OH) George E. Brown, Jr. (CA) -Carlos A. Romero-Barcelo (PR) Eni F.H. Faleomavaega (AS) Peter DeFazio (OR) John Conyers, Jr. (MI) -Robert A. Underwood (GU) Patsy T. Mink (HI) Anna G. Eshoo (CA) — Robert Wexler (FL) — Max Sandlin (TX) Shelia Jackson-Lee (TX) Albert Russell Wynn (MD) Chaka Fattah (PA) Elijah E. Cummings (MD) Janice D. Schakowsky (IL) Lynn N. Rivers (MI) -Ronnie Shows (MS) Grace F. Napolitano (CA) Silvestre Reyes (TX)

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27 total signatures.

NIMPATHOOAPOS

DAVID E BONIOR

MINORITY WHIP

WASHINGTON OFFICE 2207 BAYADAN DEFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515-2210 Fac. 12021 225, 2106

## Congress of the United States House of Representatives

**Wiashington**, **西**C 20515—2210

July 22, 1998

HOME OFFICES: 50 N WALHIF SUFE 305 MY CLEMENS, MI 48043-5677 TCL: (810) 469-7232 526 WATER STORES POH! HUNDA, MI 49060 5492 TEL. (810) 987-8899 TTY (202) 225-2275

The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman, Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of:

Proposal for Creation of the Low Power FM (LPFM) Broadcast Service FCC RM-9242, the "Skinner" petition

Dear Chairman Kennard:

I am writing as part of the reply comment period for FCC RM-9242. Please make these comments part of the official record.

I support the "Skinner" petition because I believe it can improve access to our airwaves for local communities without interfering with existing service. I am deeply concerned about the growing concentration of the media in this country and believe, that as we see tremendous consolidation within the industry, many voices and viewpoints are being priced out of the market.

With the elimination of "Class D" licenses, or those under 100 watts for small, community radio stations, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) began the process of silencing community voices. Since the passage of the 1996 telecommunications bill, it is clear that more and more of our radio stations are being gobbled up by a small group of owners who have little connection or desire to serve local public interest. Communities are losing their identity and local voice, as owners who live hundreds of miles away deprive them of local on-air personalities and programming and replace them with cookie-cutter formats taped in far off studios.

One of the fundamental tenets of our democracy is to ensure that diverse and minority interests have opportunities to express themselves at different levels, and that they are not locked out in a monopolistic, globalized fashion. It is as fundamental as the right of free speech.

Radio is perhaps the most suitable of any media outlet to provide community access. It is a relatively inexpensive medium to produce and is well suited to cover community issues and local music. Unfortunately, today's radio is the most concentrated and formulaic medium in the country. In fact, commercial stations in the Detroit metro area devote far less than one percent of their air time to local, independent music.

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

The Honorable William E. Kennard FCC RM-9242
July 22, 1998
Page two

Because of market concentration and difficult FCC licensing criteria, it is now estimated that an investment of \$80,000 to \$100,000 is needed before the FCC will even consider granting a broadcasting license. I believe this process must not freeze out community, locally-owned and operated radio. In the public airwaves, surely we can carve out a piece of the broadcasting spectrum for community-level Low Power FM (LPFM) radio stations as the "Skinner" petition proposes. Further, I believe this petition would fulfill the FCC's mandate to "serve the public interest, necessity and convenience." I support this petition and believe we owe the public some access to the airwaves they own. I hope the FCC will consider RM-9242 favorably.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

David E. Bonior Democratic Whip DAVID E. BONIOR MICHIGAN H-307, THE CAMTOL WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6538 (202) 225-3130

## One Hundred filth Congress U.S. House of Representatives Office of the Democratic Whip

May 7, 1998

The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman, Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Kennard:

I am writing to ask you for your help and guidance on an issue of great importance to me—improving access to our airwaves for our local communities. I am especially concerned about the growing concentration of the media in this country and would like a chance to discuss with you the prospects of freeing up our radio airwaves.

As you know, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) eliminated "Class D" licenses, or those under 100 watts, for small, community radio stations. Since Class D licenses are unavailable, creative talent at the local level has little access to our airwaves. One of the fundamental tenets of our democracy is to ensure that diverse interests have opportunities to express themselves at different levels, and that they are not locked out in a monopolistic, globalized fashion. It is as fundamental as the right of free speech.

Radio is perhaps the most qualified of any media outlet to provide community access. It is a relatively inexpensive medium to produce and is well suited to cover community issues and local music. Unfortunately, today's radio is the most concentrated and formulaic medium in the country. In fact, commercial stations in the Detroit metro area devote far less than one percent of their air time to local, independent music.

Because of the criteria established by your agency, it is now estimated that an investment of \$80-100 thousand dollars is needed before the FCC will even consider granting a broadcasting license. That is particularly troubling in an era when more and more of our media outlets are owned by fewer and fewer mega-corporations. Our nation's airwaves are dominated by six media multinationals which continue to consolidate their control of the market nearly every day. I do not believe our airwaves should be reserved only for wealthy media moguls.

I understand you have indicated a willingness to consider relicensing one-watt stations for community access. This would be a small step in the right direction. I would like to discuss with you further the possibility of increasing opportunities for citizens to use our airwaves and would like to schedule a meeting with you in the near future.

Thank you again for you willingness to address this issue. I look forward to working with you on ways to help make our airwaves more accessible to our local communities.

Sincerely,

David E. Bonior Democratic Whip



## CITY OF HAZEL PARK

MUNICIPAL OFFICES

111 East Nine Mile Road • Hazel Park, Michigan 48030

February 4, 1999

Michigan Music is World Class Campaign c/o Jam Rag PO Box 20076 Ferndale MI 48220

On behalf of our Hazel Park citizens, the Mayor and Council of the City of Hazel Park are in favor of F.C.C. to re-legalize community radio and we support the adoption of FCC RM-9242.

We believe it can improve access to our airwaves for all local residents without interfering with existing service. Radio is the most suitable of any media outlet to provide community access. It is relatively inexpensive to produce and is well suited to cover community issues and local music.

We support this petition and believe we owe the public some access to the airwaves they own. We hope the FCC will consider RM-9242 favorably.

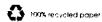
Yours truly,

Ben Colley

Mayor

Thanks for informed.

Police Dept. 810-542-6161
Fire Dept. 810-542-6000
City Attorney 810-546-3379
Water Dept. 810-546-4076

City Clerk ......810-546-4064  

(I) a (Company 28)



Feb. 15, 1999

To Whom it May Concern,

The F.C.C. is currently considering re-legalizing community radio, a move which I believe will benefit society in general and the religious community specifically. All F.C.C. regulations are mandated to serve the public interest, necessity and convenience; as such the agency urges members of the community to participate in their Rule-Making procedures, and will accept public comments on community radio until (\*\*\*\*). I hope you will take a few minutes to file an official comment on behalf of your church or organization.

4-12-99

In the words of F.C.C. Chairman William Kennard, "Radio has become the province of multi-billion dollar corporations...the loss of small religious stations and local programming is very unfortunate...in a society where most people get all their news and information from the broadcast industry, how can we have a strong democracy when the media is concentrated in the hands of a few people?...This issue cannot come down to a battle between the rich and the very wealthy, as do so many of the battles we have in Washington. These issues are fundamental to our democracy."

Across the country, there are hundreds of religious stations operating without licenses, as acts of civil disobedience. They serve an essential, specific and unique need unfulfilled by the titanic corporate broadcasters. For this service they risk fines, forfeiture and prison. For example, Arthur Kobres of Lutz Community Radio (a "Christian Constitutionalist") was recently convicted for operating a 10-watt station out of his garage without a license, and faced a possible sentence of 28 years (he was let off with house arrest and probation). The F.C.C. has shut down some 300 stations over the last year.

Other segments of society that would benefit from the legalization of community radio include ethnic minorities, cultural groups, political groups (especially third parties), etc.

Today, experts estimate that to launch a station the F.C.C. will consider licensing requires a minimum investment of \$80-100 thousand dollars. With community radio, the threshold will be lowered to a few thousand dollars.

To participate in the Comment process, go to <a href="https://www.fcc.gov/mmb/prd/lpfm/">www.fcc.gov/mmb/prd/lpfm/</a>. Or contact the Michigan Music Campaign at 248-542-8090.

We should reward those who want to participate in political debate, not throw them in prison. We should create the conditions for a diverse cultural atmosphere. And we should allow independent broadcasters the same economic opportunities currently enjoyed exclusively by our largest corporations. We do not want a nation of mindless, passive consumers — let's create avenues for an active, participatory democracy. Let the public use the public airwaves!

Respectfully,

Marrier g. Gumbleton
Bishop Thomas Gumbleton

Archdiocese of Detroit

Subject: support from labor

Date: Mon, 03 May 1999 19:47:21 -0700
From: Peter Franck < pfranck@culturelaw.com>

To: microradio@tao.ca CC: alpersyko@earthlink.net

The following letter was sent last week to Kennard from the IUE (International Union of Electrical Workers) supporting non-commercial, local micro:

April 20, 1999
William Kennard, Chair
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554
Dear William Kennard:

This letter is submitted to the Pederal Communications Commission as it reviews its rules with regard to low power FM radio.

Today radio in the United States has moved away from the vision of its pioneers as a force for democracy. Currently owned by a tiny number of huge multinational corporations, the radio outlets in this country now predominantly deliver an audience to paying advertisers.

We desperately need a system of worker oriented, community based local radio stations, controlled and operated by the people in the communities they serve. I urge the Commisson to consider among the alternatives in your forthcoming Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, the option of completely noncommercial, locally owned and local programmed micro radio.

I also urge you to craft a plan for allocating spectrum space to communities which is simple, straightforward and ease for users such as IUE's members and community representatives to master. Consideration for these principles would permit Local Unions and labor councils and similar community organizations to consider utilizing some form of low power broadcasting directly.

Very truly yours,

Peter Mitchell

Assistant to the President, and General Counsel

Senator Barbara Boxer United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20515

#### Dear Senator Boxer:

As a Senator who has championed policy for the people in the past, I request your support in petitioning FCC Chairman Kennard and his Commission to set a policy that will make radio a powerful force for democracy by favoring community-based not-for-profit low power radio (LPFM) that is affordable.

January 28, 1999, The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) proposed to re-open the low-power radio band which had been closed since 1978. The FCC is inviting comment on its proposal.

In March of this year 27 Congress persons sent a letter to FCC Chairman William Kennard expressing strong support for its proposal to legalize LPFM. Since then, more voices in Congress and in the Senate have added their support.

There is a debate on how the FCC's proposal should be implemented. Corporations which already own hundreds of stations nationally in the 50 to 120,000-watt range now clamor to extend their control even at 1,000 watts of power into local communities which would proscribe smaller community-based stations in the 100 watts and less range. We request you join those who believe that the low-power spectrum should be designated instead for community-based groups to hold licenses on a non-commercial not-for-profit basis as residents of those communities.

I urge you to contact FCC Chairman William Kennard requesting that the Commission decide in favor of devoting the low-power spectrum to stations of 100 watts or less (rather than at the 1,00 watt level) so that more slots on the spectrum will be available for community use.

At the 100-watt level, stations would be affordable to numerous worker, minority and other community-based groups whose local issues are not currently covered by big commercial radio.

Sincerely,

Brian Kiely 5160 E. Atherton St. #70 Long Beach, CA. 90815 Congressman Steve Horn 38th District, California 438 CanonHouse Office Bldg. Washington, D.C. 20515-0538

Dear Representative Horn:

January 28,1999, The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) proposed to re-open the low-power radio (LPFM) band which had been closed since 1978. The FCC is inviting comment on its proposal.

In March of this year 27 Congress persons sent a letter to FCC Chairman William Kennard expressing strong support for its proposal to legalize LPFM. Since then, more voices in Congress and in the Senate have added their support.

As Chairman of the House's Government Management, Information, and Technology Subcommittee, you have the expertise to appreciate the powerful force of radio for democracy at the local level where low power radio is especially needed.

There is a debate on how the FCC's proposal should be implemented. Corporations which already own hundreds of stations nationally in the 50 to 120,000-watt range now clamor to extend their control even at 1,000 watts of power into local communities which would proscribe smaller community-based stations in the 100 watts and less range. We request you join those who believe that the low-power spectrum should be designated instead for community-based groups to hold licenses on a non-commercial not-for-profit basis as residents of those communities.

I urge you to contact FCC Chairman William Kennard requesting that the Commission decide in favor of devoting the low-power spectrum to stations of 100 watts or less (rather than at the 1,00 watt level) so that more slots on the spectrum will be available for community use.

At the 100-watt level, stations would be affordable to numerous worker, minority and other community-based groups whose local issues are not currently covered by big commercial radio.

Sincerely,

Brian Kiely 5160 E. Atherton St. #70 Long Beach, CA. 90815

May 23, 1999

Public Comment submitted as electronic file via the Internet to - <a href="http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html">http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html</a> Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW, Room TW-B204 Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: Report No. MM 99-1; MM Docket 95-25

Dear Chairman Kennard & Commissioners:

I wholeheartedly support the opening up of LPFM opportunities for increased radio broadcast diversity as stated in the Commission's declared goals:

- ...provide new opportunities for community oriented radio broadcasting
- ...foster opportunities for new radio broadcasting ownership
- ...promote additional diversity of voices and program services

The democracy envisioned by some framers of our Constitution and Bill of Rights are noble and integral to true democracy. Unfortunately, they have been consistently undermined by the first Communications Act of 1934, and even more blatantly by the Telecommunications Act of 1996. The complete opposite of the above espoused goals have for too long been legislated, mandated.

The American public airwaves were handed over to an exclusive commercial broadcasting elite in 1934. This elite have propagated itself under the myth of the commercial marketplace while plundering the public airwaves for financial gain. Their product has never been so lacking in content or principle as it is today. Our very democracy depends upon a diverse and open exchange of ideas which sadly does not exist. The current media (broadcasting being the most obvious) alongside newspapers, magazines, book publishing, cinema et al monopolies have become so concentrated and controlled by a handful of owners and their executives that the possibility of the free flow of information so necessary to a viable democracy is undermined.

I am a businessman. But I do not believe that the profit motive is the only, or even the main, raison d'etre for human existence. I implore you, Chairman Kennard and your Commissioners, to redeem the Commission's sorry record, and the consistent betrayal of the public's airwaves by legislators, by strongly supporting the licensing of new low power FM radio stations in a manner that favors their assignment to non-commercial community-oriented organizations and individuals. The focus must be on non-commercial entities which possess a longer-term vision that this year's balance sheet

We desperately need a system of community oriented and based local radio stations that are cooperatively owned and operated by community members with a stake in and who reside in the communities they serve.

We do not need the commercial wasteland of large absentee commercial broadcast chains to extend their control into our communities on the low power spectrum at the proposed 1,000 watt level. Rather, we need the spectrum to be 100 watts or less, to be local and small, so that many more community-based groups can be represented on the FM band where they live and work together.

We urge you to craft a plan that allocates the spectrum space in a manner that is straightforward and friendly to the use of ordinary folks in such community-based groups.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian & Elba Kiely 5160 E. Atherton Street #70 Long Beach, Ca. 90815

Page 3 of 9 ;# 2/ 7

; 7-26-99 ; 14:28 ; CWA RESEARCH DEPT-8002054750

Before the FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of	):	MM Docket No. 99-25
	)	7
Creation of a Low Power	)	RM-9208
Radio Service	)	RM-9242

Comments of Communications Workers of America

> Debbie Goldman George Kohl 501 Third St. N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001 (202) 434-1194 (phone) (202) 434-1201 (fax) debbie@cwa-union.org

Dated: July 26, 1999

SENT BY: CWA

; 7-26-99 ; 14:28 ;

CWA RESEARCH DEPT-8002054750

;# 3/ 7

The Communications Workers of America (CWA) is a labor organization representing 630,000 workers employed in radio and television broadcasting, cable television, telecommunications, publishing, and other public and private sector industries. CWA members are also consumers of broadcast services.

CWA fully supports action by the Commission to establish rules authorizing the operation of new, low power FM (LPFM) radio stations. Low power radio will enhance democratic communications by facilitating a system of community-based local radio stations, controlled and operated by the people in the communities they serve. Low power radio offers exciting potential to provide worker and community-oriented radio broadcasting services as a counter to the corporate domination of the public airwaves.

Over the past three years, there has been rapid consolidation of radio ownership in response to the relaxation of the radio multiple ownership rules under Section 202(b) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. According to a Commission staff report, between March 1996 and November 1997, the number of owners of commercial radio stations declined by 11.7 percent, primarily due to mergers. In 1997, the top four radio owners in each Metro market account for 90 percent of total revenues, up from 80 percent the year before. As a result of this consolidation, radio has transformed from our most local medium, substituting national

In the Matter of 1998 Biennial Regulatory Review--Review of the Commission's Broadcast Ownership Rules and Other Rules Adopted Pursuant to Section 202 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, MM Docket No. 98-35, March 13, 1998 (rel), 18-19.

SENT BY: CWA

CWA RESEARCH DEPT-8002054750

management for local decision-making, eliminating newscasts, and imposing bland cookie-cutter program formats.

This consolidation weakens democracy. Without locally owned and programmed outlets, citizens cannot learn about important issues in their communities, and therefore are less able to participate fully in civic life. Furthermore, concentrated ownership reinforces the economic barriers keeping the voice of the less powerful-including workers, minorities, and women-off the air.

One result of consolidation and corporatization of radio ownership in recent years has been reduced radio coverage of worker issues. CWA is excited by the new communications possibilities that lower power radio would open up for our union, for our members in their communities, and for other labor and community groups. We envision a union local working with other community groups to establish a low power station directed to the concerns of the workforce and the surrounding community, giving voice to information exchange and entertainment that is now absent in the community.

In the past, local stations provided a portal and training ground for workers in the industry. This path to good, career jobs is being undermined by consolidation and centralization which has resulted in job loss for many workers in the industry. Micro-radio offers the possibility of a new training ground for new entrants into the radio industry workforce.

SENT BY: CWA

Date: 7/26/99 Time: 10:40:12 PM

CWA RESEARCH DEPT-8002054750

Today, radio has moved far away from the vision of its pioneers as a force for democracy. This medium, which is so well-suited to provide inexpensive, local programming of diverse voices, is instead becoming a medium for programming developed thousands of miles away by corporate

owners. Low power radio would provide an important counterbalance to today's commercial

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radio system which has abandoned localism.

Therefore, CWA encourages the Commission to move forward expeditiously to write rules to establish a new system of low power, community-oriented radio.

Respectfully submitted,

Communications Workers of America

George Kohl

Senior Executive Director

Dated: July 26, 1999

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

This is to certify that I have duly served these comments upon these parties on

July 26, 1999, by depositing copies of same in the United States mail, addressed as follows:

Angela Turner
Angela Turner

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas, Sccretary Federal Communications Commission 445 Twelfth Street, S.W., Room TW-A325 Washington, D.C. 20554

Mr. Paul Gordon Federal Communications Commission 445 Twelfth Street, S.W., Room 2C223 Washington, D.C. 20554

Mr. Bruce Romano Federal Communications Commission 445 Twelfth Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Mr. Keith A. Larson Federal Communications Commission 445 Twelfth Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Ms. Judy Boley Federal Communications Commission 445 Twelfth Street, S.W. Room C-1804 Washington, D.C. 20554

Mr. Timothy Fain OMB Desk Officer 725-17th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20503

International Transcription Service, Inc. 1231 20th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036

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; 7-26-99 ; 14:29 ;

CWA RESEARCH DEPT-8002054750

Resolution 61A-99-9

## **Democratic Communications**

A counterbalance is needed for the current commercial radio system which has entirely abandoned localism and public service and become merely a money-making machine for large and distant corporations. There is no reason why thousands, or even tens of thousands of low-power "micro-radio" stations could not exist in neighborhoods, apartment houses, communities and small towns throughout the U.S. No reason except the FCC's extremely restrictive policies which favor the large, wealthy corporation.

The existence of thousands of unlicensed micro-radio stations around the country has shown that such stations can exist without causing interference to others. The FCC calls these stations "pirates". But the real "pirates" are those who have tightly monopolized the public spectrum for their own profit making purposes, and who have largely eliminated local programming, especially local civic programming of any kind.

99.99% of the American people are legally barred from using radio and TV to examinate to their fellow citizens. This situation was greatly aggravated by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, which allowed for a massive consolidation of radio and TV into the hands of a few wealthy corporations. Can such a state of affairs be consistent with the First Amendment? Should freedom of press via broadcasting truly belong to those very few who own a press, or in this case, a government broadcast license?

Today, radio in the United States has moved away from the vision of its pioneers as a force for democracy. Owned by a tiny number of huge multinational corporations, the radio outlets in this country seem to have one purpose only, to deliver audience to paying advertisers. These advertisers want people to buy, yet they show little, if any, concern with the life and needs of working people.

**RESOLVED:** That we desperately need a system of worker-oriented, community-based local radio stations, controlled and operated by the people in the communities they serve.

**RESOLVED:** That CWA urgs the FCC to craft a plan for allocating spectrum space to communities which is simple, straightforward and easy to use.

Passed by CNX National Convention, +/14/99

#### Proposed Resolution from the Green Party of Michigan

Resolution in Support of New Licenses for Low Power FM Community Radio

WHEREAS, the Green Party of Michigan is committed to the principles of free speech guaranteed in the First Amendment to the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, citizens of our community hold the broadcast airwaves to be public property and a public trust; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has not made affordable, Low Power (<100 waits) FM broadcast frequencies available for community use since 1978 when regulatory changes eliminated Class D FM licenses for 10 waits of power; and WHEREAS, the passage of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 has led to an unprecedented consolidation of broadcast industry ownership, and a marked decrease in both local and minority ownership of radio stations and origination of programming; and

WHEREAS, the rights of free speech and a free press are threatened when access to communications media is concentrated in the hands of the few; and

WHEREAS, the FCC is now hearing public comment on a proposal to once again offer simple, affordable, commercial and non-commercial Low Power FM broadcast licenses (FCC's MM Docket No. 99-25); and

WHEREAS, commercial and non commercial radio stations operating under such a license could provide a community voice to individuals, musicians, artists, writers, activists, students, and points of view which are presently economically barred from access to their own above-mentioned airwayes; and

WHEREAS, issuance of said licenses would constitute a net benefit to the social, cultural, and political life of the State of Michigan and its citizens, and the U.S.;

Therefore be it Resolved, that the Green Party of Michigan supports the concept of Low Power radio stations, and urges the FCC to fulfill its mandate as guardian of a public resource, and to enact a licensing regulation to grant affordable, simple, commercial broadcast licenses to citizens of this and other communities in this country;

And be it Further Resolved, that the Green Party of Michigan supports the efforts of those who endeavor to advocate such regulatory change, and to enrich the life of our diverse community through legally establishing commercial and non-commercial public-access radio outlet:

And be if Finally Resolved, that copies of this resolution shall be sent to FCC Chairman William Kennard, to Michigan Senators Spencer Abraham and Carl Levin, and the Michigan Congressional Delegation with the request that they support the FCC's proposal to reintroduce Low Power FM radio broadcasting to our country.

(Tugge)

## PROOF OF SERVICE

I, DONNA PLANTE, declare as follows:

I am an employee of Berchenko & Korn in San Francisco County, California. I am over the age of eighteen (18) years and am not a party to the within-entitled action; my business and employment address is 240 Stockton Street, Third Floor, San Francisco, California 94108.

On July 30, 1999 I caused to be served a true copy of the following:

## SUPPLEMENTAL FILING OF NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD COMMITTEE ON DEMOCRATIC COMMUNICATIONS

by causing one original and four copies to be sent by Federal Express delivery on the address as follows:

Magalie Roman Salas
Office of the Secretary
TW-A306
Federal Communications Commission
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20054

I declare under penalty of perjury of the law of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on July 30, 1999 at San Francisco, California.

DONNA PLANTE